

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim rejections set forth in the Office Action dated August 7, 2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 21 – 25, 27, 29 – 31 have been allowed.

Claims Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 – 12, 16, 19 – 20 and 30 – 34 were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,408,345) in view of Kobashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,837,107). Claim 13 was rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsui et al. and Kobashi in view of Heguchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,237). Claim 18 was rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsui et al. and Kobashi in view of Ha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,697,138).

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, pixel electrodes electrically connected to the respective switching elements through multiple contact holes formed in the insulating layer. The Examiner indicated in the Office Action dated August 7, 2006 that Claim 21 is allowable. Claim 1 recites a feature that is similar to the distinguishable feature recited in Claim 21. Accordingly, Claim 1 is allowable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons that Claim 21 is allowable.

Independent Claim 32 recites, *inter alia*, a feature that is similar to the allowable feature recited in Claim 21. Accordingly, Claim 32 is allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons that Claim 21 is allowable.

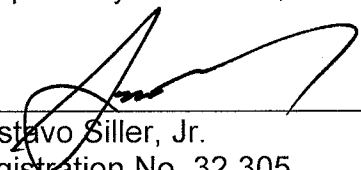
Dependent Claims 3, 4, 6 – 13, 16, 18, 19 – 20 and 30 – 34 depend from an allowable base claim, so are allowable for at least this reason.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons presented above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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